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ABSTRACT

This curriculum guide provides units for use in teaching children (ages 6 months through kindergarten) with visual impairments. The emphasis throughout is on experiential learning, development of independence, and language development. The first section includes five chapters which discuss the development of children with different visual abilities, common educational models, a suggested daily routine and classroom structure, adaptation of curriculum materials for children with other disabilities, and integration of related and special services such as augmentative communication, Braille reading, and orientation and mobility skills. The following section presents 44 instructional units. These units are organized to correspond to the most common progression of preschool and kindergarten themes; most include patterns for craft projects and a sample communication symbol page. Typically provided for each unit is information on its purpose, emphasis on vocabulary/skills/concepts, a schedule of activities, reteaching activities, extension activities, parent activities, and ways to integrate the unit across the curriculum. The 44 units are grouped into the following themes: (1) Getting Started; (2) Halloween; (3) Thanksgiving; (4) Winter; (5) Food; (6) Shapes; (7) Springtime; (8) Household; (9) Creative Play; (10) Concepts; and (11) Community. Appendices include suggestions for behavior management, orientation and mobility, and music activities. An accompanying computer disk, not available from EDRS, offers letters to parents, helpful forms, and checklists. (Contains 82 recommended readings.) (CR)

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